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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

#5/a

In re Application of: Lal *et al.*

Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned

Application No. Not Yet Assigned

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

Filed: Submitted herewith

For: RECOMBINANT MULTIVALENT MALARIAL
VACCINE AGAINST PLASMODIUM
FALCIPARUM

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

Date: February 16, 2001

I hereby certify that this paper and the documents referred to as being attached or enclosed herewith are being deposited with the United States Postal Service on February 16, 2001 as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231.

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TO THE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS,
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Before calculating the filing fee, please make the following amendments:

In the specification, please add the following paragraph at the top of page 1, immediately after the title:

-- REFERENCE TO RELATED CASES

This application claims priority to co-pending International Application Number PCT/US99/18869, filed August 19, 1999, which claims the benefit of US Provisional Application Number 60/097,703, filed August 21, 1998. --

In the claims, please replace pending claims 1-10 with the following rewritten claims 1-12:

1. (amended) A recombinant protein comprising peptides from two or more stages in a life cycle of *Plasmodium falciparum*, wherein each peptide comprises an antigenic epitope.

2. (amended) The protein of claim 1, wherein the peptides are selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 3-25, fragments thereof, combinations thereof, and conservative substitutions thereof that maintain antigenicity.